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Office Memorandum ~~SECRET~~ **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

TO : Assistant Director for Special Operations DATE: 17 April 1950
Attn:
FROM : Chief, Contact Division, OO
SUBJECT: ~~Mikola ABRAMTCHIK~~ - Case 14092

REFERENCE: (a) Your memorandum dated 10 March 1950, same subject

Operational Approaches to USSR - Western European Area

1. Enclosure (A) contains the answers to your questionnaire attached to reference (a). You will note that additional information is expected in the near future, which we will forward to you upon receipt. Your attention is invited to OO-B Reports No. 11833, 11834 and 11838, which also contain information responsive to your questionnaire.

2. In addition to the information furnished in response to question No. 9, ABRAMTCHIK reported earlier that he learned through prearranged newspaper notices in Soviet Byelorussian publications that the two young men who were despatched to the USSR in 1948 had successfully joined the partisans. ABRAMTCHIK stated further that the choice of the two young men was not very happy for intelligence purposes because they had only grammar school education, and could not function as high-class observers in any way. He offered the name of (Colonel) Prantich USZAL, a Byelorussian presently in a DP camp near Munich, as an individual who could be counted on to further any more concrete plans for future operations.

3. ABRAMTCHIK indicated that he was eager to maintain contact with our C. I. representatives after his return to Paris. To accomplish this, he expects to designate a well-trusted member of his New York group through whom he can channel information to us. Notice of this plan is forwarded to you for your information in the event of any future overseas operation between your office and subject.

Enclosure (A) Interrogation of Mikola ABRAMTCHIK
on 28 March 1950

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Enclosure A

INTERROGATION OF NIKOLA ABRANTCHIK ON 28 MARCH 1950

The following paragraphs refer to questions submitted to Nikola Abrantchik upon the request of the Office of Special Operations. Some of the topics mentioned therein were discussed in formal reports distributed by the Office of Operations, partly because such information was received spontaneously from the source and partly because it was deemed of general rather than specific intelligence interest.

1) This question has been partly answered in OO-B-17910. Some additional information under this question should be available in the near future.

2) Abrantchik insists that the political parties, at present, differ so little in their approach to the overall problems of the Byelorussian resistance movement that their analysis cannot be considered worthwhile. Abrantchik considers himself as politically independent, and declares that most of his colleagues in the Rada and in the emigre movement share his belief that the drawing up of a social and economic program for Byelorussia is of secondary importance as compared with the organization of a united front against Bolshevism. We were unable to obtain any additional information from Abrantchik on this question.

3) Abrantchik's reaction to this question was essentially the same as to Question 2, only perhaps stronger. He assured us that the underground in the BSSR is united in its fight against Communism, although different leaders in the various areas may find it difficult to coordinate and integrate their activities completely.

4) We got very little information covering this question. It should be noticed that various reports submitted by Abrantchik deal with leading personalities in the BSSR.

5) Abrantchik told us about a congress held in 1945, to which the Byelorussians had sent two delegates. The Ukrainians were also represented by two delegates, whereas some smaller nationality groups such as the Caucasians and Baltics were represented by one man each. Abrantchik believes that the meeting place was somewhere in Volhynia, just outside the BSSR, but did not give any further information about it. He gave the impression that he had no information about continued cooperation of the various nationalities resisting Communism but that he assumed that all efforts were continually made to maintain close contact between the various nationality groups.

6) This question, which has been dealt with in OO-B reports, has concerned Abrantchik and the Rada considerably, but apparently they have not been able to gain very much insight into the "Black Cat" organization.

7) Beyond a general reference to letters from the BSSR, Abrantchik refused to be pinned down on this matter. He claimed that the addressees had refused to give him any such communications for his retention, either for sentimental reasons or because of their fear of endangering the addressees.

8) [] Report 729-O refers to two recent arrivals in Western Germany from the BSSR. Preliminary indications are that these two men have more specific and up-to-date knowledge on affairs in their homeland than the few other individuals about whom Abrantchik had learned. An effort will be made to obtain more complete data from him if and when they become available, and to pin him down more specifically on previously arrived refugees. It is possible that at present he has no access to his notes and that he could provide more complete data from Paris.

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Enclosure A

9. Abramtchik claimed that he had no further information about two young men who were despatched to the USSR in 1948. He adds, however, that their mission was closely coordinated with a US intelligence agency, presumably CIC.

10. Abramtchik dealt with the question of possible penetration of his organization by Soviet or Communist agents in a spontaneous manner, and his statements will be found paraphrased in [] Report 745-0. He was most emphatic in assuring us that his organization was safe from outside surveillance, and that he could vouch for the loyalty to his cause on the part of individuals and groups with whom he maintains contact.

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